



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

COORDINATOR OF FISHERIES

For Immediate Release TO PMS OF OCTOBER 2, 1943.W

Reserves of fishery products held in freezing establishments throughout the country are now substantially above the average holdings for this season of the year, although still only about 85 percent of the quantity held in storage at this time last year, it was reported today to Coordinator of Fisheries Harold L. Ickes.

On September 1, the total holdings of frozen fish and shellfish amounted to 92,476,000 pounds, as compared with average holdings of 84,355,000 pounds during the five years preceding and 109,428,000 pounds on September 15, 1942.

During the month of August, 35,621,000 pounds of fish were frozen. Average freezings for this period of the year are about 22,000,000 pounds a month.

Fish frozen in greatest quantity during August were whiting, rosefish, mackerel, silver salmon, pink salmon, halibut, flounders, shrimp, and members of the cod family.

Cold storage reserves of fish reached a low point this year in May, when the quantity in storage was only 38 percent of last year's level. During the summer, however, there has been a steady increase in the quantity of fish going into freezers.